



Kentucky Transportation Cabinet  
Office of Public Affairs

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**Gov. Beshear announces \$2 million in projects to enhance quality of life,  
improve air quality in Lexington**

*Will address traffic congestion, public safety, healthier lifestyles*

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Gov. Steve Beshear today joined state and community leaders in Lexington to announce the approval of \$2,089,950 in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds for four projects in Fayette County.

“These investments reaffirm my administration’s commitment to maintaining and improving the overall quality of life for everyone in Lexington,” said Gov. Beshear. “While we are challenged during these lean years to accomplish more with less, we are pursuing creative and progressive paths toward goals like improving air quality and encouraging healthier lifestyles.”

The funded projects announced by the governor today include:

**\$1,212,800 for the Phase I Downtown Trolley Circulator**

With this funding LexTran will purchase four 29-foot replica trolleys, which will be used for continuous service to the downtown Lexington area. Residents and visitors will be able to park their vehicles and ride the trolleys to numerous stops in the heart of the city. The circulator service will also serve the University of Kentucky and Transylvania University. Project goals include:

1. Enhancement of Lexington’s existing public transportation system
2. Reduction in traffic congestion and improvement of air quality as a result of increased transit use
3. Boosting downtown tourism and the city’s image as a world class city

**\$365,000 for the Illuminated Street Name Signs project**

In preparation for the 2010 World Equestrian Games, the Transportation Cabinet will conduct a pilot project, involving the use of Light Emitting Capacitor (LEC) technology, to replace existing street name signs along heavily traveled and accident prone corridors. The signs will incorporate illumination and retro-reflective sheeting to make signs visible at night, even during a power failure.

### **\$448,150 for the Brighton Rail Trail Bridge**

The 184-foot lighted span will connect the existing Brighton East Rail Trail to the funded Brighton West Rail Trail. It will also link several neighborhoods and tourists to three adjacent public parks, and all the stores, offices and hotels of Hamburg Pavilion and Brighton Place Shoppes, as well as an elementary school. The Brighton Rail Trail is part of the Big Sandy Primary Trail, which in 2000 was named a “Millenium Trail”, making the project one of national significance in terms of its value to Kentucky as a tourism attraction.

### **\$64,000 for Lexington’s Share the Road Campaign**

The money will be used for “Share the Road” signage and for the development and production of print materials, public service announcements and advertising to spread the “Share the Road” message to the public. That message, which will target bicyclists and pedestrians as well as motorists, will attempt to prevent dangerous and unlawful behavior that could result in serious roadway injuries or fatalities.

The effort also has tourism-related implications. The goal is to present Lexington as a bike-friendly community to visitors.

CMAQ is a federal program that funds innovative transportation projects or programs that will reduce congestion and improve air quality. Kentucky receives CMAQ funds each year for improvements in areas that need to meet National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

CMAQ funds are available to state and local government agencies as well as private entities through public/private partnerships. Nonprofit organizations may also apply in partnership with a state or local government agency.

The Transportation Cabinet solicits applications and makes awards annually for these CMAQ funds. The cabinet’s Office of Local Programs administers all CMAQ funds/projects.

For more information on the CMAQ program and application, please visit our website <http://tea21.ky.gov/> and follow the link to CMAQ.

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